

Town report narrative for 2019 (2020 publication)

In 2019, the Library has continued its work of expanding the Library's collection, offering a wide range of programs for residents of all ages, and completing repairs and upgrades to the building.

Staff

After 17 years with the Hampton Falls Free Library, Youth Services Librarian Carol Sanborn retired. In her retirement, Carol will be pursuing her many other interests such as puppetry, beading, knitting, basket weaving, travel, visits to the lake, and spending time with family. The Library hosted a farewell party for Carol in May which was attended by friends, colleagues, and children of all ages.

Leah Knowlton, who has worked at the Library as a Library Assistant for three years, is the new Youth Services Librarian. The transition was a smooth one as Leah had been assisting Carol in Youth Services. In addition, there are three Library Assistants who work at the Circulation Desk and behind the scenes. Francesca Schleppey has kept the front desk running smoothly for 13 years and has taken the lead in implementing the new Interlibrary Loan software. Joanna Meighan joined the Library staff in 2017. Erin Sniderman also joined the staff in 2019 after working as a substitute. Rosemarie Deegan, Katharine Longo, and Bonnie Sheets assist as substitutes when needed.

The education of library staff continues. Staff members have attended workshops sponsored by the NH Library Association and the Children's Librarians of NH. In 2019, the staff renewed their CPR certifications and enrolled in training in the new Interlibrary Loan software. Joanna Meighan has become proficient in a new graphic software, Canva. Leah Knowlton and Joanna Meighan took a social media workshop. Last spring, the staff took a tour of the Wakeda Campground to familiarize themselves with this local facility.

Programs

Throughout the year, the Library continued its focus on education and cultural events by sponsoring many free and low-cost programs such as beading, basket-making, book discussions, a cookbook club, puppet shows, knitting, Mah Jong, and Yoga for children. In addition, the Library sponsored programs for adults including: Local Candidates Night, The Shaker Legacy with NH Humanities to Go, Invasive Plants of NH, and Black Bear Happenings in New Hampshire, and ended the year with a celebratory holiday Cookie Exchange. More than 1,857 adults attended programs this year.

The Library gratefully acknowledges the Friends of the Library for sponsoring programs featuring Instant Pot Cooking, Researching your Old House, The Herb FARMacy, Ansel Adams as an Environmentalist, Backyard Birds, The Great NE Hurricane of 1938, Here's to Beer, and A

Few Seconds with our Fathers, as well as the grand prize for the Adult Summer Reading Program. The Adult Summer Reading Program brought in a record number of readers who earned raffle tickets for every book read.

Library Director Barbara Tosiano continued to lead the monthly Book Discussion Group for adults. Former Head of Youth Services Carol Sanborn continued to offer classes on basket-making. Our annual book sale and bake sale not only raised funds but also brought new faces into the Library. Once again, the Library staff partnered with an online vendor to sell more valuable items at a price reflecting their value. In response to a 2017 survey, the Library has added a Cookbook Club which met quarterly on a Saturday. Participants selected a recipe from an assigned cookbook, prepared a dish, and enjoyed a potluck at the Library.

Yoga is now a regular part of Library programming for children of all ages. Carol Sanborn, who had achieved certifications as a ChildLight Yoga Instructor, Advanced ChildLight Yoga Instructor, Yoga in Schools, and ChildLight Yoga for Tweens and Teens, continued to teach Yoga to children at the Library on a monthly basis.

Weekly Kindergarten story time, after-school story time for 1st through 4th graders, pre-school story times, and LEGO programs continue to be popular. Carol Sanborn, followed by Leah Knowlton, led book discussions for 5th-8th graders. The Library's Annual Tea Party, Santa Party, and Polar Express Storytime continue to be the highlights of each season. Carol and Leah continued their relationship with LAS by working closely with LAS Library Media Specialists. Summer Reading Programs were well-subscribed and well-attended. These programs were so well-attended that the Library relocated three programs, one of which brought in an audience of 104 children and parents, to the Fire Station to accommodate the crowd!

In order to promote early childhood literacy, Leah introduced *1,000 Books before Kindergarten*. The goal is to read 1,000 books to a child before they enter Kindergarten. To date, 32 participants have enrolled and are recording their reading levels in 100 book increments. The children come in waving their reading logs with great enthusiasm!

Grants

The Library obtained a scholarship from the Boston Museum of Science Traveling Programs as well as a Kids, Books and the Arts Grant for the Summer Reading Program. Although not a monetary grant, the Hampton Falls Free Library applied for and was awarded a visit from Smokey Bear for the 75th Anniversary of Smokey Bear. The Library partnered with the Fire Department for this event.

Museum Passes

The Library maintained its membership with the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the American Independence Museum in Exeter. In turn, the Friends of the Library provided museum passes to the Currier Museum, Strawberry Banke, and the Wright Museum of WWII in Wolfeboro. In 2019, the Friends funded passes to the NH State Parks, Historic New England, and the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center in Concord. Additionally, two private donors funded passes to the Fells Estate and the Seacoast Science Center. Museum passes offer free or reduced-price admission to Hampton Falls residents. With added publicity, the use of the museum passes continues to increase.

Backpacks

As an added incentive to enjoy the great outdoors, the Library Trustees and Friends filled three backpacks with hiking gear such as binoculars, field guides, and trail maps. In 2019, these backpacks were checked out like books to enhance the outdoor experience whether in the mountains, at the seacoast, or bird watching.

Art

The walls of the Library are available as a display venue for local artists. Please call or visit the Library to display your art.

Publicity

News of Library programs is available on our web site, Facebook page, Instagram, monthly calendar, sign board, and through our e-mail list. Additionally, the Library submits press releases to local media outlets and posts flyers in appropriate venues. Last year, the Library developed a bookmark listing upcoming programs as well as statistical information about the Library. In 2019, the Library staff has created a new trifold brochure detailing the many services the Library has to offer as well as information on the Friends' activities and membership. Also, in 2019, the Library staff created an Instagram account to increase the Library's visibility on social media. All Library events are listed on the Library's website www.hamptonfallslibrary.org. For further information, please visit or contact the Library by phone 926-3682 or email hamptonfalls.library@comcast.net.

In Appreciation

The Library is fortunate to have the support of so many individuals and businesses – our gratitude is deep!

In alphabetical order, they are: David and Elaine Ahearn, Cpt. Larry Anderson, John Ashak, Frank Aurelio, Nancy Axelson, Marilyn and Paul Ayles, all the bakers for the Book Sale and Santa Party, Christine Chase, Carole Chanasyk, John Clemons, Linda and David Coe, the Davidson Family, Sandra and Russ Davies, Dorothy DeCosta, Chief Rob Dirsra, Scott and Sharmila Faiia, Heather Fabbri, Jim Faber, Laura Ferrigno, Carol and Jack Fermery, Ellen Fiascone, Beth Forgiione, the Gagalis Family, Donna Gandt, Lt. Alexis Garrant, Karen Gulla, Hampton Falls Police

and Firefighters, Town of Hampton Falls Staff, Shawn Hanson, Ardith Harvey, Lisa Hayes, Mary Ann Hill, Kathryn Job, Glenn Johnson, Matt Knowlton, George and Padeu Koch, Jodi Kriner, Lincoln Akerman staff, Chief Jay Lord, Amy Magnarelli, the Mah Jong Ladies, Diane Martin, the Master Gardeners of Rockingham County, Karen McDermott, Richard McDermott, Kathy McLaughlin, Jack McMath, Skip Medford, Kim and Paul Michael, Carol Moore, Beverly Mutrie, Robin Nicholas, Joseph O'Connor, Donna and Tom Onacki, Tuesday Orluk, Shelley Parish, John W. Parker, Jessica Pearlo, Laura, Michael & Ainsley Pouliot, Deborah Regan, Alisha Roberts, the Rogers Family, Town Administrator Lori Ruest, Tim and Anne Marie Samway, Carol and Gregg Sanborn, Hugh Schrier, Jane Shanahan, Janet Sherrod, Building Inspector Mark Sikorski, Bonnie Sheets, Judy Wilson Smith, Larry Smith, Erin Sniderman, Beth Tamagnini, Sheila Tanguay, Traci Thompson, Abby Tonry, Danny and Marc Tosiano, Louise Vance, Lt. Ryan Venno, Cam Wallace, Lisa Wenger, T.J. Wheeler, and the Williams Family.

In addition, we would like to thank the following businesses for their continuing generosity:

AM-PM Janitorial Service, ARTastic Playplace, Bead Creative, Book Outlet, Boston Museum of Science, Canobie Lake Park, Captain's Cove Adventure Golf, Cinnamon Rainbows Surf Company, Coastal Living Paint and Hardware, DBC Pri-Med, LLC, Dodge's Agway, Drinkwater Flowers & Design, Exeter Greater Federation of Women's Clubs, Emmelyn's Farm Market, Friends of the Hampton Falls Free Library, Carolyn Buckley Fusco LMT, George and Phillips-the Sports Specialty Store, Hampton Falls Scout Troops, Hampton Falls Village Market, Hampton Rotary Club, Hannaford Supermarkets, The Herb FARMacy, KB's Center of Dance and Movement, Krystal Ballroom Dance Studio, Las Olas Taqueria, Lindt Chocolate Company, Luv2Play, Valerie Marshall of Usborne Books, Market Basket of Seabrook, MetroRock of Newburyport, Native Coffee & Kitchen, Natural Oils for Life-Yoga for Health, NH Motorplex, the NHSPCA, The Old Salt Restaurant, O'Neil Cinemas, Pizza Hut, Quicksilver Fine Jewelry & Gifts, the Rye Garden Club, Story Land, Sweet Snips, Twin Lanterns Dairy Bar, Vision Max Cinema, Walmart of Seabrook, and Water Country.

Over the course of the year, the Library added more than 1519 books, audio books, and DVDs to the collection. In addition to these material offerings, a variety of electronic databases and interactive tools continue to be offered including Learning Express, Mango Languages, World Book encyclopedia, Ancestrylibrary.com, and Heritage Quest for personal enrichment. Another popular tool available is NH Overdrive for access to audio and e-books. In 2019, more than 2326 audio and e-books were borrowed.

The Numbers	2018	2019
Registered Patrons	1246	1237
Library Programs held		
Youth	221	207
Adult	255	238
Total	476	445

Story Time/Program attendance

	Youth	2473	2182
	Adult	1922	1857
Total		4395	4039
Interlibrary Loan			
	Borrowed	299	676
	Lent	384	484
Total		683	1160
Adult circulation			
		9904	10724
Juvenile circulation			
		8064	8438
TOTAL:		17968	19162

Respectfully submitted,

Hampton Falls Library Board of Trustees
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